

Havering SACRE, Local RE update: Autumn 2022

So far this term, the Subject Leaders' network meeting has met via Zoom on 22nd September. This meeting was in advance of the Agreed Syllabus launch and focused on 'Ways of Knowing'. The Ofsted research review explains that there are 3 pillars of knowledge in RE and that getting better in the subject comprises knowing and remembering more of each of these pillars. Ways of knowing is one pillar, with substantive knowledge and personal knowledge bring the other two. This session served as an introduction to ways of knowing so that teachers could take this into consideration during the new syllabus launch and when planning how to implement the new resources.

The launch of the new Agreed Syllabus and resources was held on 7th October 9am-midday. Thirty-three teachers from Havering schools were in attendance and the event was filled to capacity. We were delighted to be joined by Wendy Brice Thompson and Helen Mullis Kunda, Chairs of Havering and Redbridge SACREs respectively who spoke to teachers, commended the syllabus, thanked teachers for their work and asked to keep channels of communication open. During the event, attendees were introduced to statutory requirements of the syllabus, new resources to accompany it and had the opportunity to find out about and try out some classroom activities within the new units of work. The new Agreed Syllabus and additional resources can now be accessed on the Havering Educational Services portal.

The RE Consultant visited Squirrels Heath Junior School at the school's request and worked with the Subject Leader to ensure that their medium-term plans cover the Agreed Syllabus adequately.

23rd November will see Havering's first regular termly RE training session for all primary staff involved in teaching RE. These sessions will run as twilight sessions via Zoom throughout this year. The first session will focus on developing confidence when teaching RE.